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date after the award is announced. FM 22-5 prescribes the ceremony for presentation of unit awards at a formal review.

§ 578.57 Presidential Unit Citation.

(a) *Criteria.* The Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) (re-designated from the Distinguished Unit Citation on November 3, 1966) is awarded to unit of the Armed Forces of the United States and cobelligerent nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy occurring on or after December 7, 1941. The unit must display such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart from and above other units participating in the same campaign. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would warrant award of a Distinguished Service Cross to an individual. Extended periods of combat duty or participation in a large number of operational missions, either ground or air is not sufficient. This award will normally be earned by units that have participated in single or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans. It is not reasonable to presume that entire units can sustain Distinguished Service Cross performance for extended periods except under the most unusual circumstances. Recommendations for units larger than brigade will not be submitted.

(b) *Awarding authorities.* Approval authority for award of the PUC is the President of the United States who delegated authority to the Service Secretaries.

(c) *Award elements.* The award elements for the PUC (Army) are as follows:

- (1) PUC Streamer (Army);
- (2) PUC Emblem (Army);
- (3) PUC Certificate and Citation;
- (4) DAGO.

(d) *Description.* The PUC Emblem is 1 $\frac{7}{16}$ inches wide and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in height. The emblem consists of a $\frac{1}{16}$ inch wide gold frame with laurel leaves, which encloses an ultramarine blue 67118 ribbon.

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§ 578.58 Valorous Unit Award.

(a) *Criteria.* The Valorous Unit Award (VUA) may be awarded to units of the Armed Forces of the United States for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force or while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party for actions occurring on or after August 3, 1963.

(b) *Requirements.* The VUA requires a lesser degree of gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps than that required for the Presidential Unit Citation. Nevertheless, the unit must have performed with marked distinction under difficult and hazardous conditions in accomplishing its mission so as to set it apart from and above other units participating in the same conflict. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would warrant award of the Silver Star to an individual. Extended periods of combat duty or participation in a large number of operational missions, either ground or air is not sufficient.

(c) *Unit eligibility.* This award will normally be earned by units that have participated in single or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans. It is not reasonable to presume that entire units can sustain Silver Star performance for extended periods except under the most unusual circumstances. Recommendations for units larger than brigade will not be submitted.

(d) *Awarding authorities.* The Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), G-1 is approval authority for the VUA. Recommendations for award of the VUA will be forwarded to Commander, USA HRC, ATTN: AHRC-PDO-PA, Alexandria, VA 22332-0471, for processing to the DCS, G-1 for final action.

(e) *Award elements.* The award elements for the VUA are as follows:

- (1) VUA Streamer;
- (2) VUA Emblem;
- (3) VUA Certificate and Citation;
- (4) DAGO.

(f) *Description.* The VUA emblem is 1 $\frac{7}{16}$ inches wide and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in height. The emblem consists of a $\frac{1}{16}$ inch wide

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gold frame with laurel leaves which encloses a ribbon of the pattern of the Silver Star Medal ribbon centered on a red ribbon. The stripe dimensions of the ribbon are: $\frac{3}{8}$ inch old glory red 67156; $\frac{1}{16}$ inch ultramarine blue 67118; $\frac{1}{64}$ inch white 67101; $\frac{3}{32}$ inch ultramarine blue 67118; $\frac{3}{32}$ inch white 67101; center $\frac{3}{32}$ inch old glory red 67156; $\frac{3}{32}$ inch white 67101; $\frac{3}{32}$ inch ultramarine blue 67118; $\frac{1}{64}$ inch white 67101; $\frac{1}{16}$ inch ultramarine blue; and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch old glory red 67156. The streamers are the same pattern as the silver star medal ribbon.

§ 578.59 Meritorious Unit Commendation.

(a) *Criteria.* (1) The Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) (Army) (previously called the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque) is awarded to units for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services for at least 6 continuous months during the period of military operations against an armed enemy occurring on or after January 1, 1944. Service in a combat zone is not required, but must be directly related to the combat effort. Units based in the continental United States are excluded from this award, as are other units outside the area of operation. The unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set it apart and above other units with similar missions. The degree of achievement required is the same as that which would warrant award of the Legion of Merit to an individual. Recommendations for units larger than brigade will not be submitted. For services performed during World War II, awards will be made only to service units and only for services performed between January 1, 1944 and September 15, 1946.

(2) Effective March 1, 1961, the MUC was authorized for units and/or detachments of the Armed Forces of the United States for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services for at least 6 continuous months in support of military operations. Service(s), as used in this paragraph, is interpreted to relate to combat service support type activities and not to the type of activities per-

formed by senior headquarters, combat, or combat support units.

(b) *Awarding authorities.* Approval authority for the MUC is the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), G-1. Recommendations for award of the MUC will be forwarded to Commander, USA HRC, ATTN: AHRC-PDO-PA, Alexandria, VA 22332-0471, for processing to the DCS, G-1 for final action.

(c) *Award elements.* The award elements for the MUC are as follows:

- (1) MUC Streamer;
- (2) MUC Emblem;
- (3) MUC Certificate and Citation; and
- (4) DAGO.

(d) *Description.* The MUC emblem is $1\frac{7}{16}$ inches wide and $\frac{9}{16}$ inch in height. The emblem consists of a $\frac{1}{16}$ inch ide gold frame with laurel leaves which encloses a scarlet 67111 ribbon. The previously authorized emblem was a gold color embroidered laurel wreath, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches in diameter on a 2 inch square of olive drab cloth.

§ 578.60 Army Superior Unit Award.

(a) *Criteria.* The Army Superior Unit Award (ASUA) was created in 1985 to recognize outstanding meritorious performance of a unit during peacetime of a difficult and challenging mission under extraordinary circumstances. Circumstances may be deemed to be extraordinary when they do not represent the typical day-to-day circumstances under which the unit normally performs, or may reasonably be expected to perform, its peacetime mission. The following additional criteria also applies:

(1) The unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks as to set the unit apart from and above other units with similar missions. For the purpose of this award, peacetime is defined as any period during which wartime or combat awards are not authorized in the geographical area in which the mission was executed. The ASUA may be awarded to units that distinguish themselves while conducting humanitarian missions for a minimum of 30 days, however, the ASUA will not be awarded if the same act or period of service has already been recognized by another unit award.